

Claims

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. A method for controlling an appliance, comprising:  
analyzing audio information associated with said  
appliance to identify at least one predefined audio  
characteristic; and  
automatically adjusting said appliance when said  
10 predefined audio characteristic is identified.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein said predefined audio  
characteristic indicates that said appliance should be turned  
off.
- 15 3. The method of claim 1, wherein said predefined audio  
characteristic indicates that a configuration of said appliance  
should be adjusted.
- 20 4. The method of claim 1, wherein said predefined audio  
characteristic is a static audio characteristic.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein said predefined audio  
characteristic is a time varying audio characteristic.
- 25 6. The method of claim 1, wherein said predefined audio  
characteristic and said corresponding adjustment are obtained  
during a learning phase.
- 30 7. The method of claim 1, wherein said predefined audio  
characteristic and said corresponding adjustment are a default  
setting.

8. A method for controlling an appliance, comprising:  
establishing at least one appliance adjustment rule,  
said appliance adjustment rule including at least one predefined  
audio characteristic associated with said appliance and an action  
item to be performed to automatically adjust said appliance when  
said rule is satisfied;

analyzing audio information associated with said  
appliance to identify said at least one predefined audio  
characteristic; and

performing said action item if said appliance  
adjustment rule is satisfied.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein said predefined audio  
characteristic indicates that said appliance should be turned  
off.

10. The method of claim 8, wherein said predefined audio  
characteristic indicates that a configuration of said appliance  
should be adjusted.

11. The method of claim 8, wherein said predefined audio  
characteristic is a static audio characteristic.

12. The method of claim 8, wherein said predefined audio  
characteristic is a time varying audio characteristic.

13. The method of claim 8, wherein said establishing step  
further comprises the step of learning a correlation between said  
predefined audio characteristic and said corresponding  
adjustment.

14. The method of claim 8, wherein said establishing step  
further comprises the step of installing one or more default

settings indicating said predefined audio characteristic and said corresponding adjustment in said appliance.

15. The method of claim 8, wherein said appliance adjustment rule includes one or more settings for said appliance that should be established when said appliance adjustment rule is satisfied.

16. A system for controlling an appliance, comprising:  
a memory for storing computer readable code; and  
a processor operatively coupled to said memory, said processor configured to:

analyze audio information associated with said appliance to identify at least one predefined audio characteristic; and

automatically adjust said appliance when said predefined audio characteristic is identified.

17. A system for controlling an appliance, comprising:  
a memory for storing computer readable code; and  
a processor operatively coupled to said memory, said processor configured to:

establish at least one appliance adjustment rule, said appliance adjustment rule including at least one predefined audio characteristic associated with said appliance and an action item to be performed to automatically adjust said appliance when said rule is satisfied;

analyze audio information associated with said appliance to identify said at least one predefined audio characteristic; and

perform said action item if said appliance adjustment rule is satisfied.

18. An article of manufacture for controlling an appliance, comprising:

a computer readable medium having computer readable code means embodied thereon, said computer readable program code

5 means comprising:

a step to analyze audio information associated with said appliance to identify at least one predefined audio characteristic; and

10 a step to automatically adjust said appliance when said predefined audio characteristic is identified.

19. An article of manufacture for controlling an appliance, comprising:

15 a computer readable medium having computer readable code means embodied thereon, said computer readable program code means comprising:

20 a step to establish at least one appliance adjustment rule, said appliance adjustment rule including at least one predefined audio characteristic associated with said appliance and an action item to be performed to automatically adjust said appliance when said rule is satisfied;

a step to analyze audio information associated with said appliance to identify said at least one predefined audio characteristic; and

25 a step to perform said action item if said appliance adjustment rule is satisfied.

20. A system for controlling an appliance, comprising:

means for analyzing audio information associated with  
said appliance to identify at least one predefined audio  
5 characteristic; and

means for automatically adjusting said appliance when  
said predefined audio characteristic is identified.

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